



Wichita Bicycle Master Plan

Steering Committee Meeting #5

Meeting Summary

April 12, 2012, 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Wichita City Hall – 1st Floor Board Room

Attendance

Committee Members: Barry Carroll, Charlie Claycomb, Jerry Jones, Lavonta Williams, Becky Pepper, Dalton Glasscock Sonja Armbruster, Debra Miller Stevens

Staff: Peter Lagerwey (conference call), Scott Wadle, Dave Barber

Others: None

1. Agenda Review – Purpose of the Meeting

Scott Wadle welcomed everyone and facilitated a review of the meeting agenda. No changes to the agenda were requested.

2. Review – Project Update

Scott provided a brief review of the project progress to-date. Using a PowerPoint, Scott reported the progress with the various plan elements and that the project is on-schedule.

3. Review – Goals and Objectives

Scott reported that one Steering Committee member had submitted comments regarding ways to measure the level of bicycling in Wichita (related to Goal 1). After some discussion, the Steering Committee consensus was to utilize the American Community Survey data produced by the Census Bureau and to include a recommendation in the plan document for the City to conduct bicycle counts on a regular basis. The Wichita bicycle counts data can be used to supplement, and in the future if warranted may replace the American Community Survey data as the measure for Goal 1.

No additional recommendations for changes to the Goals and Objectives were suggested.

4. Review – Draft Documents

In order to ensure time to cover other items on the agenda, the Steering Committee decided to spend the time until 5:45 pm reviewing the draft documents. Staff encouraged members of the Steering Committee to review the materials after the meeting and to continue to contact staff with questions or suggestions for

improvements. Based on staff recommendations, the Steering Committee consensus was to set April 17th as the deadline for the Steering Committee submit suggestions for improvements to the draft plan materials. The deadline was established so that staff would have enough time to put together the draft plan prior to the Open House event on May 1st.

Due to the limited time to review the materials at the meeting, the Steering Committee prioritized the review of the draft documents based on staff recommendations. The two documents rated the highest priority for review were the Strategies and Actions; and the Performance Measures documents. The Steering Committee was able to review a significant portion of the Strategies and Actions document up to 5:45 pm. They did not have time to review the other draft documents during the meeting.

Below is a listing of highlights from the review of the Strategies and Actions document. Please note: the list is numbered for references purposes, it does not signify a rank order of any kind.

1. A question came up about the term “stand-alone” bicycle projects and what it refers to in action 2 under the strategy to provide on- and off-street bicycle facilities. The explanation is that it means bicycle facilities that are not a part of another project (i.e. bike lanes as part of a road re-surfacing project, etc.).
2. Some of the strategies have action items that refer to other strategies. An example is that the strategy to provide on- and off-street bicycle facilities can be implemented through a Complete Streets policy.
3. The Steering Committee consensus was a preference for the action items to be separated rather than clustered (i.e. to break-up the action item containing the routine accommodation, Complete Streets, zoning... in to separate action items).
4. The Steering Committee consensus was to add a recommendation (strategy or action) to provide opportunities for volunteers to adopt a bicycle facility. Steering Committee members indicated that the Wichita Park and Recreation Department currently offers an adopt the park program.
5. A question came up about whether Wichita Transit is the appropriate lead for Action 3, under the strategy to improve bicycle access to transit stops and stations. Staff committed to reviewing and updating that action as necessary.
6. The Steering Committee consensus was for staff to look for ways to ensure that the Wichita system includes a variety of facilities (including recreational) for different levels of cyclists to enjoy (beginners through advanced/experienced cyclists). Specific facilities discussed included mountain bicycle facilities and spaces for small children.

7. Related to the previous discussion topic, the Steering Committee requested that staff add a strategy or action to provide educational and event opportunities for beginner cyclists. An example of this is the beginner day events being held in Kansas City.
8. The Steering Committee members discussed the merit of having a maximum or minimum number of bicycle racks identified in Action 2, under the strategy to increase the availability of bicycle parking. Staff committed to review the action and bring proposed changes to the Steering Committee for review.
9. The Steering Committee consensus was to add a strategy or action to ensure that bicycle facilities are kept open during construction events or appropriate detours are provided.
10. The Steering Committee recommended that Action 3, under the strategy to promote bicycle education be updated to include bicycle shops and bicycle related organizations
11. The Steering Committee members recommended that police education related to the bicycle laws be included as an action item.
12. A member of the Steering Committee suggested that community service might be an appropriate form of progressive ticketing punishment – Action 1, under the strategy to increase enforcement of bicyclist and motorists behavior to reduce crashes.
13. The Steering Committee consensus was to add a strategy or action for the City and/or stakeholders to distribute/provide data related to behaviors that increase bicycle and motor vehicle crashes. One example discussed was to share the crash data from KDOT.
14. A Steering Committee member also mentioned that this plan could include a recommendation for community stakeholders to conduct research using crash and injury data to identify hot spots. One example brought up during the discussion is a program in Boston.
15. The Steering Committee members indicated support for adding a recommendation for the City to explore and/or host a pilot project for a bicycle share system.
16. The Steering Committee members also discussed and recommended that the plan include a recommendation for how the City can improve coordination of bicycle related projects within the City organization.

5. Review – Bikeway Network Maps

With the time remaining for the meeting, the Steering Committee opted to review the Priority Recommendations Map. Peter Lagerwey provided an overview of the map and the Steering Committee members asked questions while also drawing recommendations on the map. Below is a list of Steering Committee recommendations for updates to the map.

- Add a connection from the existing K-96 path to the Harry Street path. The suggested route was 127th St | Central Ave | 143rd St | Harry St.
- Update the map to reflect the existing on-street facilities near Pawnee Ave and K-15.

In addition the recommended updates, members of the Steering Committee requested a top 10 list of the top priority bikeway projects. Some of the potential criteria discussed for the ranking included symbolic, affordable, could be accomplished through other projects, and use.

The Steering Committee members also recommended that the top 10 priority list include shared-use paths (i.e. Redbud) as appropriate.

6. Review – Better Block

Scott indicated that posters for the Better Block event were available for Steering Committee members to pick-up.

7. Next Meeting

The Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for April 30th from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

8. Questions and Answers

No one expressed any questions.

9. Public Comments

No public comments were submitted.

10. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:45 p.m.